

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. A residue collector adapted for coupling to a prep-board, comprising:
a collection perimeter encompassing a reservoir;
a plurality of support members for laterally and perpendicularly supporting a prep-board, the support members being inboard of the collection perimeter.
2. The residue collector of Claim 1, wherein the residue collector is a unitary, one-piece structure.
3. The residue collector of Claim 1, wherein a base portion of the residue collector lies outboard of the collection perimeter.
4. The residue collector of Claim 1, wherein the residue collector has a generally rectangular shape.
5. The residue collector of Claim 4, wherein the base of the residue collector has dimensions of one of about 11 by 15 inches, 14.5 by 18.5 inches or 18 by 22 inches.
6. The residue collector of Claim 1, wherein at least one of the plurality of support members comprises a lateral support portion and a perpendicular support portion.
7. The residue collector of Claim 6, wherein the lateral support portion is at about a right angle to the perpendicular support portion.

8. The residue collector of Claim 6, wherein the collection perimeter has a maximum level and the lateral support portion extends above the maximum level of the collection perimeter.
9. The residue collector of Claim 1, wherein at least one of the plurality of support members has a truncated, generally conical shape.
10. The residue collector of Claim 1, wherein at least one of the plurality of support members lies at least partially in the reservoir.
11. The residue collector of Claim 10, wherein the at least one of the plurality of support members is an upward projection in the reservoir.
12. A prep-board assembly, comprising:
 - a prep-board with a prep-board perimeter;
 - a residue collector comprising a collection perimeter encompassing a reservoir and a plurality of support members laterally and perpendicularly supporting the prep-board in a prep-position;
 - wherein the prep-board perimeter and the collection perimeter define a continuous gap around the prep-board perimeter.
13. The prep-board assembly of Claim 12, where in the gap is at least about $\frac{3}{8}$ of an inch around the entire prep-board perimeter.
14. The prep-board assembly of Claim 12, wherein a surface of the prep-board lies above a minimum level of the collection perimeter when in the prep-position.
15. The prep-board assembly of Claim 14, wherein the surface of the prep-board lies at least about $\frac{1}{8}$ of an inch above the minimum level of the collection perimeter when in the prep-position.

16. The prep-board assembly of Claim 12, wherein the underside of the prep-board lies below the maximum level of the collection perimeter when in the prep-position.

17. The prep-board assembly of Claim 16, wherein the underside of the prep-board lies at least about 1/8 of an inch below the maximum level of the collection perimeter when in the prep-position.

18. The prep-board assembly of Claim 12, wherein the residue collector comprises a continuous gap-collector portion within the gap and encompassing the prep-board perimeter and lower than adjacent collector perimeter portions.

19. The prep-board assembly of Claim 18, wherein the continuous gap-collector portion includes at least one obstructed gap portion adjacent at least one of the plurality of support portions, wherein in the obstructed gap portion, the gap-collector surface portion extends at least about 1/16 of an inch below an outwardly adjacent collector perimeter portions.

20. The prep-board assembly of Claim 12, wherein the prep-board has a solid surface.

21. The prep-board assembly of Claim 12, wherein the prep-board has throughways.

22. The prep-board assembly of Claim 21, wherein the throughways comprise slots.

23. The prep-board assembly of Claim 21, wherein the prep-board comprises a solid perimeter portion extending around the perimeter of the prep-board.

24. The prep-board assembly of Claim 21, wherein the prep-board comprises a plurality of rows of slots, adjacent rows of slots being separated from one another by a separation portion.
25. The prep-board assembly of Claim 12, wherein the prep-board has a generally rectangular shape.
26. The prep-board assembly of Claim 25, wherein the prep-board has dimensions of one of about 8 by 12 inches, about 11.5 by 15.5 inches or 15 by 19 inches.
27. The prep-board assembly of Claim 12, wherein at least one of the plurality of support members comprises a lateral support portion and a perpendicular support portion.
28. The prep-board assembly of Claim 12, wherein the lateral support portion is at about a right angle to the perpendicular support portion.
29. The prep-board assembly of Claim 28, wherein the lateral support portion lies outboard of the prep-board perimeter.
30. The prep-board assembly of Claim 28, wherein the collection perimeter has a maximum level and the lateral support portion extends above the maximum level of the collection perimeter.
31. The prep-board assembly of Claim 12, wherein at least one of the plurality of support members has a truncated, generally conical shape.
32. The prep-board assembly of Claim 12, wherein at least one of the plurality of support members lies at least partially in the reservoir.

33. The prep-board assembly of Claim 32, wherein the at least one of the plurality of support members is an upward projection in the reservoir.

34. A residue collector system, comprising:

a residue collector comprising a collection perimeter encompassing a reservoir and a plurality of support members adapted to laterally and perpendicularly support a prep-board;

a plurality of prep-boards adapted to be supported in a prep-position by the residue collector;

wherein a first prep-board has a prep-board perimeter, the prep-board perimeter and the collection perimeter defining a continuous gap around the prep-board perimeter.

35. The system according to Claim 34, wherein the plurality of prep-boards comprises a prep-board with a solid surface.

36. The system according to Claim 34, wherein the plurality of prep-boards comprises a prep-board with throughways.

37. The system according to Claim 34, wherein the plurality of prep-boards comprises a first prep-board with a solid surface and a second prep-board with throughways.

38. A prep-board assembly, comprising:

a prep-board with a prep-board perimeter;

a residue collector comprising a collection perimeter encompassing a reservoir and a plurality of support members inboard of the collection perimeter, the plurality of support members having lateral support portions and perpendicular support portions laterally and perpendicularly supporting the prep-board in a prep-position with a surface of the prep-board lying above a minimum level of the collection perimeter and an underside of the prep-board lying below the maximum level of the collection perimeter;

wherein the prep-board perimeter and the collection perimeter define a continuous gap around the prep-board perimeter and the residue collector comprises a continuous gap-collector portion within the gap and encompassing the prep-board perimeter and lower than adjacent collector perimeter portions; and

wherein at least one of the plurality of support members is an upward projection lying in the reservoir.

39. The prep-board assembly of Claim 38, wherein the prep-board has a generally rectangular shape.

40. A prep-board assembly, comprising:

a prep-board with a prep-board perimeter, the prep-board having a surface; and

a residue collector adapted for coupling with a prep-board, the residue collector comprising a collection perimeter encompassing a reservoir, the collection perimeter having a minimum level;

wherein when the prep-board is coupled with the residue collector, the prep-board perimeter and the collection perimeter define a continuous gap around the prep-board perimeter and the surface of the prep-board lies above the minimum level of the collection perimeter when in the prep-position.

41. The prep-board assembly of Claim 40, wherein the gap is at least about 3/8 of an inch around the entire prep-board perimeter.